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Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (2-1693)

DATE: 3/14/63

FROM: *Jay H.* SAC, Miami (2-345) (RUC)

SUBJECT: WALLACE H. WELCH
JERRY PATRICK HEMMING
LORENZO HALL
NEUTRALITY MATTERS
Dallas 00

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 MAC/ACE
ON 7/1/94 (JFC)

Re Dallas letter to Bureau 2/7/63, and Bureau
letter to Dallas 2/20/63.

B APPROX 1937

7/1 Alabama

The files of the Miami Office contain the following information concerning GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, which information has been furnished by MM 639-S. (X)(u)

U.S.A
In April, 1961, GEORGE RANNER, former Army Major, established an anti-CASTRO organization known as the Anti-Communist Legionnaires. This organization consisted of about twenty American adventurers and soldiers of fortune.

In May, 1961, HEMMING took over the organization and established a military training camp in the Florida Everglades, about 40 miles west of Miami. He recruited about 17 Americans from Houston, Denver and Chicago, with reckless promises of high pay and adventure.

In June, 1961, HEMMING held a parachute demonstration at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and received considerable press publicity. As a result a large number of adventurers came to Miami to join him and his group, many of these persons were later arrested for vagrancy, bad checks, breaking and entering, and thefts. Most of them have since left Miami.

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- 2 - Bureau (RM) *10*
- 2 - Dallas (2-65) (RM) *0 SP 11*
- 1 - Jacksonville (Info.) (RM) *10*
- 2 - Miami

RJD:JMS
(7)

REC-25

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MM 2-345

On December 4, 1963, HEMMING and twelve of his men were arrested by United States Customs, for attempting to illegally export arms, and going on a military expedition. Later the U.S. District Court Judge, Miami, Florida, dismissed the case because the U.S. Department of Justice failed to go ahead with the prosecution.

In February, 1963, HEMMING collaborated with Miami Attorney CHARLES ASHMANN, and furnished false information to the press and the British government concerning the capture of eight Cubans on February 20, 1963 by the Cuban government.

HEMMING, a 6'6", 26 year old adventurer and mercenary, is frequently seen wearing a U.S. Marine Corps Combat suit in downtown Miami; frequently wears a Van Dyke type of goatee, and is called one of the "Three Musketeers" by the press, because of his handsome appearance, and his flair for wearing an Australian type bush hat.

HEMMING is not cooperative with the United States government, is a self-styled expert on Latin affairs, U.S. policy, federal law and guerrilla warfare. HEMMING interprets the failure of the United States government to prosecute him for his violations of federal law as meaning U.S. government approval of his activity.

AMM 639-S advised that ~~LORENZO HALL~~ is loosely associated with HEMMING, has been in Miami for about three months, is disagreeable, not liked, has bad personality and is of low moral standards. HALL speaks some Spanish, is unemployed and from his demeanor and